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Journal

Office of Legislative Counsel

Thursday - 12 August 1954

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1. In connection with the surfacing of a Soviet defector, I am informed by [] that it is now scheduled for approximately 5:00 p.m. on 13 August. In view of the Director's discussions with Chairman Jenner, in February 1954, on the subject of this defector, it is recommended that Chairman Jenner be advised regarding this defector a few minutes before the press conference is scheduled. This will permit Chairman Jenner, if he so desires, to make an announcement on the Floor to the effect that the defector is in this country and will testify before his Subcommittee in the near future.

It is recommended that Legislative Counsel discuss this matter with the Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations, as they may wish to inform the Majority and/or Minority Leaders and the Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee as a matter of courtesy. These small attentions are usually highly appreciated by senior members of the Congress who often feel that the Administration does not pay them sufficient attention. The problem of the Committee staff member who will handle this case should also be discussed with Chairman Jenner.

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3. In connection with H.R. 10203, the Atomic Weapon Rewards Act of 1954, Mr. Cotter, of the staff of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, informs me that they have revised the membership of the Board created to determine the amount of rewards to be paid under the Act to include the following: The Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Defense, the Attorney General, the Director of Central Intelligence, and a member of the Atomic Energy Commission. The Committee felt very strongly that the evaluation of the information should be in the hands of CIA and that therefore the Director should also be on the Board.

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5. The Senate has completed action on 8 private bills requested by CIA. 7 of these must now pass the House, and an attempt is being made to complete action during this session. Mr. Francis Walter, key Democratic member of the House Immigration Subcommittee, informed me that no more CIA bills would pass as CIA had not hired any of the Lehigh graduates he had recommended to us and had turned them down on the ground that they were not qualified. As Mr. Walter does not know of the 7 bills now pending, it may be that he will not follow through on his comment. It is my recollection that Personnel, during the past few years, has correctly held that none of the applicants endorsed by Mr. Walter qualify, with one possible exception, and that individual was so high-handed during and after his interview as to make it obvious that he would be a problem at all times.

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6. [] the Director of Training, informs me that through outside contacts he has been asked to interview [] [] for possible employment here.

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7. The Senate has passed H.R. 2263, a bill for the readjustment of compensation of holders of contracts of mail messenger service. The bill has been amended in the Senate to include various fringe benefits, including the exemption for CIA from the Performance Rating Act of 1950 and the repeal of Section 9 of the CIA Act of 1949. The bill now returns to conference on Friday afternoon. Mr. Belen, Counsel to the House Committee, called me at home to make certain that the present format is satisfactory.